

COLORADO LIBERTY

The Libertarian Party of Colorado Newsletter

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Want to make a suggestion for this newsletter?

**We want to hear from you!
What would you like to see more of in this newsletter?**

Email all inquiries to newsletter@lpcolorado.org. If you have any general questions about the party, Libertarianism, or just want to chat it up with fellow Libertarians, email info@lpcolorado.org, and we'll get you squared away in no time.

Thanks for your continued support, and for helping us make history in Colorado!

THINGS ARE IN MOTION!

Not surprisingly, 2016 has already become a very busy year for every one of us here at LPCO. We've got our eyes on the Legislative session that is now under way, changes are taking place at the affiliate level, candidates are already busy campaigning, and the convention is right around the corner.

Needless to say, each one of us needs your help, and there are many opportunities to volunteer. Every one of these things is important, and in order to be successful, they need volunteers. We can't stress enough how much your support is needed to make this all work.

If you would like to help out on any projects or campaigns mentioned in this newsletter, or would like to know about additional opportunities, email us right away at info@lpcolorado.org.

Volunteers!



Preparing for the New Legislative Session

Are you ready? The Second Regular Session of the Seventieth General Assembly will open on January 13, 2016.

In an 18 week period roughly 600 pieces of legislation will be presented. When the Legislator is in session Liberty is rarely gained, but it can be lost quickly. As Libertarians we need to engage, participate and navigate our way through instituted government if we want to roll back and limit the influence of it has on our lives.

We must learn to become “Self Governing”, that is Self-determined man, exercising individual Liberty, personal and civic accountability and responsibility for the control of instituted government. It’s not easy or automatic; it’s not showing up with pitchforks and torches. Its building relationships with our elected, effective communications, presenting facts and exercising influence.

As Libertarians we are in a unique position to share our position and principles with both the Democrat and



Republican elected representatives in making our appeal for Liberty, to make our voice heard. Through the legislative session I will be working to keep you up to date on legislation being presented and happenings at the Colorado State capitol. I will be asking for your participation to

testify in the committee hearings, send an e-mail, or making a phone call to our elected; making the Libertarian argument for or against legislation.

You can always review the legislative calendar and proposed legislation at the Colorado General Assembly web site: <http://www.leg.state.co.us/>. If you feel strongly about a piece of Legislation, need help framing an argument or position, and testifying in committee I’m here to help.

If you want to learn more about the Legislative process in Colorado, how to navigate the State Capitol, even where to park I can help. E-mail me: legislative@lpcolorado.org.

The qualifications for self government in society are not innate. They are the result of habit and long training.”

—Thomas Jefferson

LPCO CHAIR STEPS DOWN, RUNS FOR U.S. SENATE

At the January board meeting, Lily Tang Williams officially resigned as Chair of LPCO. Spirits were high, though, because she did so in order to focus her efforts on a run for U.S. Senate. She has already been quite busy this month with campaign stops, and she is building quite a bit of momentum.

In fact, she posted a photo of herself on Facebook (shown here), which included a brief but powerful summation of the reasons she fights for Liberty. As of this writing, the post has gone viral, having been shared over 13,000 times and counting, and receiving 17,000 Likes.



It's not hard to see why her campaign is turning a lot of heads. The parallels she makes between her experience as a Chinese-American and the growth of our own government are very compelling.

In her own words: "I chose to come to America to be free, and to escape China's one-party police state. I am a big believer of individual rights and liberty, self-ownership and responsibility, free markets and entrepreneurship, and of the Second Amendment and privacy rights."

She also says she will go to Washington to "stop the madness," and that she "cannot be bought." Her race against Democratic incumbent Michael Bennet is only just beginning.

The Board is sad to lose such a great leader, but the gains she will likely make with her candidacy towards advancing the cause of Liberty and growing the party will surely be without measure.

Affiliates and Development Groups Are Crucial This Year

To all of my fellow Libertarians out there – I hope the end of the holiday season and the ringing in of 2016 has seen you all well. As we gear up for 2016 – a year in which several important decisions will be made in America, including who our next president will be – the Libertarian Party of Colorado will be placing a renewed interest in getting local organizations going and we need your help!

Local affiliates, development groups, and even county contacts are important when it comes to seeing our party grow and advancing the message of our principles to reach as many people as possible.

Growing our affiliate program is extremely important for a couple of reasons. The first of which is growing our numbers. We rely on development and affiliate groups to help us reach out into the community and find people who are interested in advancing the cause of liberty. Primarily, we seek out people who are fed up with the corrupt two party system and acknowledge that there must be a better approach to politics. By recruiting more and more people into our groups, we develop a diversity of thought which is imperative to the success of the party. If the same people are always involved, the Party will become stale and cease to be relevant. We actively seek new members in order to bring fresh and new perspectives on the issues facing our localities and the nation.

You may be saying to yourself that while you and your friends love liberty, you are only a



small group and cannot make a difference. That is simply not the case! One of the goals of the Libertarian movement is to create exposure of our name and brand. Even the smallest groups can make a big difference to someone who has never been exposed to our principles and philosophy. A small

group of under five members can sometimes make a larger difference than a group of thirty or more when they are on fire and motivated for what they believe in. By establishing a contact in each county, we will be able to use these small groups to look for opportunities that might have otherwise been missed or that the state party may not have been able to get involved in. We rely on our county contacts to help us identify local opportunities for advancing the cause of liberty throughout Colorado.

My primary plan as Regions Director this year is to focus on making sure that we have a good contact in every single county in Colorado as soon as possible. Each county is in the process of having a Facebook page created to assist with local recruitment efforts. My intention is to have these contacts act as beacons in their community for liberty. Ideally they will help grow their local affiliate as well as broadcast our principles for all to see by volunteering in the community and raising awareness through social media. I will be focusing on one region per month and hope to have solid contact in place in every county by January 2017.

(continued)

There are a lot of us Libertarians and until we get together and start making some noise, how can we expect to grow and make a difference? With this being an election year, people are more interested in politics than ever and we need your help to change people's minds on the current duopoly. If you are interested in representing your county to newly registered Libertarians and want to see the party active in your county or know someone who would be a perfect fit for this position, please contact myself or any member of the state board and we will be happy to assist you in growing our brand in your area.

I look forward to working with everyone in the upcoming year and am excited about taking the Libertarian Party of Colorado to new heights. With your help, we can make a change! We can break the two-party system which has plagued our country for so long! We can help bring true freedom to all

people and backgrounds! Volunteer today as a local contact and make a difference!

Sincerely,

Richard Longstreth

Regions Director

Libertarian Party of Colorado

regionsdirector@lpcolorado.org

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS...

- **Larimer County Development Group** will be having a 2016 Kick-Off Event on February 13. They are working on getting together speakers for the event and are hoping to have a night of food, drinks, fun, and Liberty. I have been told that Libertarian presidential candidate Steve Kerbel plans on being in attendance. They are currently seeking volunteers to assist with the event. Email larimer@lpcolorado.org if you can assist or know of speakers whom they can reach out to.
- **El Paso Affiliate Group** will be having their 4th Annual Convention February 27. They will be electing new Board positions and going over By-Law Amendments. They are asking that all El Paso Co individuals who wish to vote, RSVP. Open to the public. Location Tilted Kilt, Colorado Springs at 11am.
- **Arappahoe County Affiliate Group** will be having its annual meeting on Sunday, February 21st at 2:30pm. The meeting will occur immediately following another Roadside Cleanup at 1pm, in which LPAC cleans up an adopted highway in Arappahoe County. It is very important that anyone interested in getting involved with LPAC attend this meeting! The Chair and Treasurer will be stepping down for personal reasons, and will need new leadership. If you are interested in this opportunity, please email us right away!

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF COLORADO

2016 CONVENTION

The content of this article is re-printed from our last issue. We are in need of the following:

Speakers: We are continuing to add names to our list of speakers, but could always use more. In the past, we have had people speak on topics ranging from campaign and fundraising strategy, cannabis reform, media and entertainment, and everything in between. Local speakers are easier to accommodate. Sponsoring a national speaker is an option, assuming the speaker is available and willing.

Ads/Sponsorships: If your boss is Libertarian, or if you know of any organizations or self-employed business people, let them know that we have advertising and sponsorships available. These help us pay for the convention in a big way, and are very critical to ensuring it is a success.

Merchant Booths: if you know of any businesses that may be interested in having a booth at our convention, this has

been very successful for those who have had them at past conventions. Some business sell books, cd's and other merchandise, while others simple provide brochures, fliers and other pieces of literature about their organization. Remind anyone interested that there is likely going to be good attendance at this convention, being that it is a presidential year.



You can help in other ways, too! Get some friends to come with you, or even pay for an extra ticket and bring them along. If you don't want an ad, but would like to help out financially, you can get a sponsorship and the money will go towards the convention. The more effective we are at getting sponsorships and tickets sold, the more things we will be able to do to make the election-year convention of 2016 the perfect momentum-generating machine we know it can be!

Visit www.LPColorado.org/convention for more Convention details as they progress, and store.LPColorado.org to purchase your all-access admission while it is still on sale!